



DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION  
CITY OF CHICAGO

August 16, 2019

Joseph M. Ferguson  
Inspector General  
740 N. Sedgwick Street, Suite 200  
Chicago, Illinois 60654

RE: Follow-Up on Advisory Concerning the Department of Streets and Sanitation Providing Free Garbage Collection to Certain Nonprofit Entities

Dear Inspector General Ferguson:

The Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation (DSS) has reviewed the issue of refuse and recycling collection service to nonprofit entities with Mayor Lori Lightfoot's administration to address recommendations made by the Office of Inspector General (OIG) in the May 2019 *Advisory Concerning the Department of Streets and Sanitation Providing Free Garbage Collection to Certain Nonprofit Entities*.

In an effort to support the many charitable organizations that help Chicagoans while ensuring refuse and recycling service is provided fairly, DSS proposes offering services to all nonprofit organizations who meet financial criteria to be codified in the Municipal Code of Chicago. Furthermore, DSS will propose additional eligibility standards limiting the number of refuse carts available to nonprofit entities to better align with DSS' low density residential service model. All non-profits that receive services will be billed monthly upon implementation of this policy.

As ordinance amendments are required to implement and codify these proposed changes, DSS will work to introduce an amendment in the fourth quarter of 2019, with a goal of implementation in 2020.

Finally, as communicated in previous correspondence, DSS agrees that the current list of nonprofit entities is not inclusive. DSS will continue to review its cart inventory to ensure accuracy of service delivery reporting and billing.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

John Tully  
Commissioner  
Department of Streets and Sanitation